

MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 12, 2001

6:30 PM

The Board convened for their regular meeting at 6:30 PM at the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office, 717 W. Main, Arlington, Texas on February 12, 2001, notice of said meeting being posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, V.T.C.A., Government Code, with the following members present, to wit:

Members

Mr. Bob Korman	Chair	Place 7	June 2001
Mr. Dale Attebery	Vice-Chair	Place 11	June 2001
Ms. Carrie Donovan	Member	Place 1	June 2001
Ms. Suzanne Kelley	Member	Place 2	June 2002
Ms. Sue Phillips	Member	Place 3	June 2001
Mr. Alvin Warren	Member	Place 4	June 2002
Mr. Lenzy Pouncy	Member	Place 5	June 2001
Mr. Charley Amos	Member	Place 6	June 2002
Mr. Charles Peeler	Member	Place 8	June 2002
Ms. Sarah Dendy	Member	Place 9	June 2001
Ms. Anne Weydeck	Member	Place 10	June 2002
Mr. Blake Wade	Youth Member	Place 12	Sept 2001

Term Expires

Staff:

Pete Jamieson	Interim Director of Parks and Recreation
Bill Gilmore	Parks Business Manager
Ruth F. Keith	Administrative Secretary, Administration
Guy McLain	Park Maintenance Superintendent
Bruce Frantz	Park Maintenance Superintendent
Joe Bruner	City Council Member

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Korman called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

RECOGNITION PRESENTATION – LOUIS NEUMAN – City Purchasing Agent

Pete Jamieson introduced Mr. Neuman to the Park and Recreation Board. Mr. Neuman was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for his 26 plus years of distinguished service to the City of Arlington and the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Neuman is retiring on February 16, 2001.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 8, 2001 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Member Peeler moved to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2001 regular meeting. Member Pouncy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

ITEMS FROM CITIZENS (ABOUT ITEMS FOR ACTION). No citizens spoke to the Board.

PARK USE PERMITS: There were no Park Use Permit requests this month.

1. Preservation Ordinance.

Member Attebery discussed the Preservation Ordinance and advised the Board that a vote on the Ordinance will take place at the March 12 meeting. Mr. Attebery also advised the Board they would receive a copy of the proposed Ordinance in the normal packet that is mailed 5-10 days prior to the next meeting.

2. Park Naming Guidelines.

Mr. Bill Gilmore, Park Business Manager discussed Park Naming and Renaming policy guidelines have been developed and reviewed by the City Council's Social Capital Committee. The Committee is seeking Board input before sending the policy to the City Council for possible formal adoption.

The proposed guidelines provide a formal process that assists the City Council with naming or renaming city parks and recreation facilities while providing for citizen input and accommodating Parks and Recreation Board recommendations.

Member Kelley made a motion to approve the document with the following changes to II. Guidelines for Naming or Renaming 6 a. and 6 b.

Section 6a.

From: Donating or contributing a significant amount for the development of the park facility.

Change to: Donating or contributing a significant amount for the **acquisition land or development** of the park facility.

Section 6b.

From: Providing direct and significant volunteer services benefiting the public as a local or community leader, who is not currently holding office.

Change to: Providing direct and significant volunteer services benefiting the public as a local or community leader, who is not currently holding **a local elected office.**

Member Phillips seconded the motion to accept the revised Park Naming Guidelines. The motion passed unanimously.

b. 2001-2001 Capital Budget

Mr. Pete Jamieson, Interim Director, presented and discussed the 2001-2001 Capital Budget. Mr. Jamieson told the Board that, for several months, the Parks and Recreation Department has worked closely with several other city departments to identify citywide priorities for capital improvements. Proposed park projects are based on the Park Bond implementation schedule, Parks and Wildlife grant obligations, the Parks Master Plan, and several key capital maintenance initiatives. Mr. Jamieson said the suggested projects include the Tennis Center-Phase2, Harold Patterson irrigation renovation, Randol Mill Swimming Pool renovation, Vandergriff Park roadways/parking lot renovations, California Lane Park development and Helen Wessler renovation-Phase 2. Mr. Jamieson said these projects address two Council Strategic Initiatives: **Systematically Invest in the Community's Infrastructure and Foster Livable Neighborhoods.** Member Peeler stated he could not endorse this recommendation, further stating he feels the Board should have been more involved in the final recommendations. Member Phillips suggested sending a letter to request that the Board be more involved before final

decisions are made next year. After extensive discussion by the Board, Member Atterbery moved to approve this request, providing a letter is drafted and forwarded to Theresa O'Donnell, Director of Planning requesting that the Park and Recreation Board have an opportunity for formal input during future year Capital Budget decisions. **Member Phillips** seconded the motion. The motion carried with 9 ayes and 3 nays.

	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Mr. Bob Korman		x
Mr. Dale Attebery	x	
Ms. Carrie Donovan	x	
Ms. Suzanne Kelley	x	
Ms. Sue Phillips	x	
Mr. Alvin Warren	x	
Mr. Lenzy Pouncy	x	
Mr. Charlie Amos		x
Mr. Charles Peeler		x
Ms. Sarah Dendy	x	
Ms. Anne Weydeck	x	
Mr. Blake Wade		

SCHEDULED INFORMATION REPORTS

A Planning Work Plan Report:

Vandergriff Master Plan – Pete Jamieson informed the Board that funds are available from the 1997 Bond Program for planning Vandergriff Park. **At the end of FY2000-01, master planning will be 100% complete.** A consultant has been retained and plan completion is scheduled for May 31, 2001. Funding for construction is proposed in the 2001 Capital Budget. Staff is seeking assistance from Tarrant County on roadway construction. Member Dendy inquired why Tarrant County is being asked to assist on this project. Mr. Jamieson stated that the county would be asked to do the asphalt at this location.

Member Warren inquired how the various pre-project designs are decided. Mr. Jamieson stated the community/neighborhood and crime watch associations are contacted and surveyed for public input before any design decisions are made.

Elks Club (4 acres). Mr. Jamieson stated the title search; property survey and appraisal are complete. Negotiations with the property owner are underway.

Johnson Creek ISTE A (10 acres). Mr. Jamieson stated at the end of FY2000-01, this project would be 100% complete. Final offers to property owners have been made. Two residential parcels remain, but negotiations are complete. Member Phillips inquired as to what happened to the \$3 million grant. Mr. Jamieson stated **\$2,675,000** has been received and will be used in the buy-out process.

A. Customer Service Report – February 2001

Member Weydeck asked if any more Coyotes or Mountain Lions have been seen in our parks. Mr. Jamieson stated numerous Coyotes have been seen in various parks.

Member Warren wanted to know if the youth basketball/volleyball scheduling conflicts have been taken care of at Hugh Smith Recreation Center. Mr. Jamieson stated because of coordination problems this was an issue. Mr. Jamieson stated that staff has addressed the problems and offered apologies to all customers involved.

Member Phillips inquired if there were personnel problems at Elzie Odom Recreation Center. Mr. Jamieson stated there has been turnover of management staff due to a stressful working environment. Mr. Jamieson added that staff at EORC is currently doing the custodial maintenance of the building in order to reduce operating costs. Mr. Jamieson further stated that the facility is not generating enough revenue to cover debt service. Member Phillips wants staff to think of customers first as we cannot afford to lose revenue at any location.

Member Donovan inquired if the Parks Department is interested in converting the old basketball court at Howard Moore Park to an in-line hockey area. Mr. Jamieson stated that suggestion is currently being studied.

Monthly Calendar of Activities – Enclosed with agenda with no discussion

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

A. Mike Murray, Consultant Information - Enclosed with agenda. Mr. Jamieson discussed the consultant information from the January 19-20, 2001 retreat with the Board Members and invited them to review it in the months ahead.

B. Capital Maintenance Work Plan Objective - Mr. Jamieson distributed an informational piece regarding the Capital Maintenance Work Plan Objective. Mr. Jamieson introduced Mr. Guy McLain, Park Operations Superintendent, who provided the Board with a power point “snap shot” view of various parks and facilities that need repair and how they will be repaired. The Board agreed the presentation was very interesting.

ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Attebery stated he recently visited J. W. Dunlop Park and there are major issues with the BMX area. There is trash; graffiti plus fences have been broken to make more jumps. Member Attebery further stated that it appears the BMX group is moving to the California Lane Park and appears they have also moved to River Legacy Park. Member Attebery stated the BMX Association is inactive. Member Attebery also stated he has requested Kenny Mott, Construction Superintendent, to issue citations to customers who are abusive of the property at these locations.

Member Wydeck advised the Board she attended the Youth Sports Committee meeting February 8th. As a result of this meeting Member Wydeck requested information from staff: 1) timeline to install additional field lighting for a youth field (or fields) at Randol Mill Park, and 2) what are the plans, if any, to replace the concession/restroom building that were torn down at Vandergriff Park. Member Wydeck also requested the status of a zoning case for a convenience store on the corner of Fielder Road and Green Oaks Blvd. and what, if anything, is the city considering to provide buffer space around city parks in response to commercial development? Staff will provide Ms. Weydeck with answers to her questions prior to the March 8th Youth Sports Committee meeting.

Member Attebery announced he will be the featured speaker to discuss the Preservation Ordinance on February 14th at the Arlington Conversation Council.

Member Attebery stated a staff report from Bob Byrd, Health Director and Mr. Jamieson would be sent to City Council asking them to adopt changes to Animal Ordinances for the entire city.

Member Dendy announced a volunteer clean up will be conducted at the Wildscape Garden in Veteran's Park. The date is Saturday, February 17th beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Korman acknowledged Councilman Joe Bruner's attendance and thanked him for attending the entire meeting. Councilman Bruner said he enjoyed the meeting very much.

Chairman Korman stated he will present the Park Board's Annual Report to City Council Tuesday, March 6th at approximately 2:30 p.m. and invited his colleagues to attend if possible.

Member Kelley reminded all that the 12th Annual Frozen Rope Softball Tournament will be held March 2, 3 and 4 at the Randol Mill Adult Softball Complex. Arlington Sunrise Rotary Charities' 2001 benefactor will be the Arlington Women's Shelter.

Member Attebery announced he is a judge at a Chili Cook-Off event, hosted by HRA (Helping Restore Ability) will be held February 25th. The location for the cook-off is the pavilion south of the Ball Park in Arlington from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.

Memo – Mike Murray (Facilitator) Report – Chairman Korman discussed the report as a result of their January 19-20, 2001 retreat. Mr. Korman urged the Board Members to decide on how to become more organized and involved with Board functions. Chairman Korman stated a date would be decided for members to meet and identify 3 courses of action and make recommendations on how to become a stronger Board. Member Attebery suggested that members of the Board work up to 4 hours at various Parks and Recreation locations to find out what makes the department "tick".

A. Monthly Calendar of Activities for February, 2001

(Enclosed in agenda, no discussion)

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS – (No reports for discussion)

ITEMS FROM CITIZENS – No citizens were present to speak.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

NOTE: Taped recordings and minutes of all Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings are a matter of public record and are kept on file in the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office, 717 W. Main Street, Arlington, TX. Any Board member or interested party has the right to review these tapes and minutes at the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office.